Announcement
News on ICT in Education

News & Events
UNESCO and the government of Italy agreement on supporting the educational radio and television of Afghanistan
The Government of Italy and UNESCO agreed on a new project entitled, “Development of (ERTV) for audio-visual support to teacher training in Afghanistan”, to further capacity development of the Educational Radio and Television of Afghanistan ERTV.

UNESCO and G3ict sign a partnership on ICT for persons with disabilities
UNESCO and the Global Initiative for Inclusive Information and Communication Technologies signed a partnership agreement to facilitate the social inclusion of persons with disabilities through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

UNESCO-supported e-learning association launched in Middle East
The Middle East e-Learning Association (MEEA), established for the purpose of providing innovative open educational practices, was launched on 1 February. MEEA is supported by UNESCO, together with several other international organizations.

IFAP Annual World Report 2009 available online
According to the analysis presented in “Information Society Policies. Annual World Report 2009”, the most important effect of the information society is probably the fact that it eliminates several historical divides. Social differences caused by the unequal distribution of ICT tools are being eliminated by the same tools, which causes a paradoxical situation.

Government of Australia invests $40 million (AUD) for teachers’ ICT training
The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, announced a $40 million initiative to help ensure teachers and school leaders receive comprehensive training in ICT. The Digital Strategy for Teachers and School Leaders, part of the Australian Government’s $2.2 billion Digital Education Revolution, will help teachers and school leaders achieve ICT proficiency and embed these skills across the curriculum and teaching practices.

Communication prices falling worldwide, UN reports
Prices for information and communication technology services are falling worldwide, and services continue to grow, propelled by mobile cellular use, but broadband Internet remains outside the reach of many in poor countries, the United Nations telecoms agency reported.

The national biennial conference of the Australian Council for Computers in Education returns to Melbourne in April 2010
The Australian Computers in Education Conference 2010 (ACEC2010) is the biennial conference of the Australian Council for Computers in Education (ACCE). In 2010 the
ACEC conference will be hosted by ICT in Education Victoria (ICTEV) in Melbourne from the 6th to the 9th April.

**Programmes & Projects**

**International children’s digital library project**
The International Children’s Digital Library (ICDL) is an online library for children and parents but also teachers. It includes 4,365 books in 54 languages and has already been visited by over a million people from 166 countries.

**Resources**

**Providing ICT skills to teacher trainers in Cambodia: Summary of project outputs and achievements**
This study presents data on the outputs of an international development project called “Establishing the Effective Use of ICTs in Education for All in Cambodia”.

**Study on the Impact of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and New Media on Language Learning**
The aim of the study was to investigate the impact on language learning of ICT and new media, as a complement to ‘traditional’, face-to-face learning and teaching within – and beyond – the framework of formal education systems.

**ICT and polyglot**
To be a polyglot (speak more than one language) had never been so easy; thanks to the potential of ICTs.

**Sciencefeed: Share and discuss your opinions about research, scientific conferences, and science headlines.**
This microblogging platform allows users to post short microblogs, sometimes just a few sentences, on scientific headlines, new findings, controversy, conferences and ideas related to science.

**Class Blogmeister – Learning as conversation**
Class Blogmeister is one of several blogging engines that have been developed specifically for classroom use.

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**UNESCO and the government of Italy agreement on supporting the educational radio and television of Afghanistan**
The Government of Italy and UNESCO agreed on a new project entitled, “Development of ERTV for audio-visual support to teacher training in Afghanistan”, to further capacity development of the Educational Radio and Television of Afghanistan ERTV.

The signing ceremony of the project, which is worth around USD 1 million, took place at the Ministry of Education in the presence of Mr. Seddiq Patman, Deputy Minister of
This project focuses on developing the capacity of the ERTV as a producer and broadcaster of Educational materials. In close collaboration with the Teacher Education Department of the Ministry of Education, the project will enhance the distance learning initiative as one of the priorities of the Ministry of Education highlighted in National Education Strategic Plan NESP II (2010-2014).

Considering the physical burdens and lack of accessibility, especially in the winter season, the efficient use of audio-visual medium in the distance learning context will greatly help to gain access to more teachers in the rural areas of Afghanistan.

The project aims to develop the capacity of ERTV by using private sector collaboration in accordance to internationally recognised best practices relating to communication for development and media development; and to enhance the production quality of technical and educational aspects of audio-visual support programmes in teacher training both in formal education and literacy.

UNESCO and the Government of Italy have supported the ERTV since 2003. The first phase of mutual support to ERTV, which finished in December 2008, has led to the creation of a fully operational educational radio and TV production house with broadcasting capabilities. The newly renovated ERTV started broadcasting 24 hours radio programme and 12 hours television programme on a daily basis since April 2008.

UNESCO has been working in Afghanistan since 2003 to support the education, culture, communication and information sectors. Technical assistance on developing the Ministry of Education’s five year strategic plan, conserving the World Heritage Sites of Bamiyan and Jam Minaret and assisting the process of fair and transparent flow of information are among key UNESCO’s activities in the country.

**Further information:**

- **ERTV**

**Related links:**

- [UNESCO helps develop distance education in Afghanistan](#)
- [Italy grants further funding to Afghan educational radio and television](#)
- [Distance Education via radio and TV programme is seen as a key vehicle to improve literacy and provide access to information](#)
Previous issues of the e-newsletter:

- UNESCO "ICT in Education" Announcement e-newsletter

What do you think about this topic?

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UNESCO and G3ict sign a partnership on ICT for persons with disabilities
UNESCO and the Global Initiative for Inclusive Information and Communication Technologies (G3ict) signed a partnership agreement to facilitate the social inclusion of persons with disabilities through the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

This agreement contributes to the implementation of the Digital Accessibility Agenda defined by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Seventy-nine countries have ratified the UN Convention, making a commitment to ensure that persons with disabilities would enjoy all human rights on an equal basis. Several general principles of the Convention are directly linked to the UNESCO mandate.

UNESCO and G3ict agreed to carry out common activities, which would contribute to the empowerment of persons with disabilities, particularly through the effective use of ICT. The forms of the cooperation will include sharing of data and information, mostly on policies and programmes, and identification of good ICT practices, tools and products, in the areas of UNESCO’s competence, for persons with disabilities. In addition, both partners agreed to foster international cooperation and to collaborate in developing a framework for monitoring existing needs in ICT of disabled communities. UNESCO and G3ict will also work in partnership to develop plans and policies, as well as implementation processes in the States Parties to the UN Convention.

Abdul Waheed Khan, UNESCO’s Assistant Director-General for Communication and Information, emphasized: “UNESCO advocates for the building of knowledge societies, a vision of people-centered and development-oriented societies, where access to information and communication helps all people to achieve their full potential. ICT, including the Internet, have tremendous potential to improve the capacity of people with disabilities to access information and knowledge, and to increase their independence, improve their daily lives and broaden their horizons. The signed agreement will provide an opportunity for both partners to contribute to the implementation of articles of the UN Convention, which fall within UNESCO’s mandate, as well as mobilize new programmes and projects.”

According to Axel Leblois, Executive Director of G3ict, the agreement “demonstrates the strong commitment and leadership of UNESCO in promoting the ICT accessibility agenda of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities”. “This partnership
constitutes an excellent framework to develop cooperation among Member States, disabled persons organizations and civil society. It will also help to significantly raise the awareness of the challenges and opportunities of ICT for persons with disabilities among governments, to facilitate the sharing of good practices and to accelerate the implementation of ICT accessibility policies and programmes around the world,” he added.

**Further information:**

- [UNESCO and G3ict sign a partnership on ICT for persons with disabilities](#)

**Related links:**

- [Mainstreaming ICT for Persons with Disabilities to Access Information and Knowledge (consultative meeting website)](#)
- [Global Initiative for Inclusive Information and Communication Technologies (G3ict)](#)
- [UNESCO hosts meeting on ICT for persons with disabilities](#)
- [ICT and disabilities: Seeing in the cyberworld](#)

**Previous issues of the e-newsletter:**

- [UNESCO "ICT in Education" Announcement e-newsletter](#)

**What do you think about this topic?**

- [Visit our on-line forum and share your views](#)

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**UNESCO-supported e-learning association launched in Middle East**

The Middle East e-Learning Association (MEEA), established for the purpose of providing innovative open educational practices, was launched on 1 February. MEEA is supported by UNESCO, together with several other international organizations. The Middle East e-Learning Association is a regional independent, non-political, non-profit association established for the purpose of providing innovative open educational practices and promoting quality, innovation and transparency in higher and continuing education. It also aims to develop policies, procedures and practices with respect to the design, development and implementation of e-learning curricula.
MEEA has an ambitious vision of achieving several activities in the region which include:

- networking and information sharing,
- strategy and policy development,
- establishment of special interest group,
- design and professional development programmes,
- establishment of awards to recognize excellence in various practices of e-learning,
- research and dissemination of research outcomes through publishing reports, newsletters, articles in journals and profession magazines and other means.

MEEA received support from several international organizations, such as UNESCO, International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP), Commonwealth of Learning (COL), Swiss Centre for Innovations in Learning (SCIL), EDUCAUSE, European Learning Industry Group (ELIG), European Distance Education Network (EDEN), the International E-Learning Association (IELA), United States Distance Learning Association (USDLA), and it will continue to work on establishing further international relationships.

Right at the beginning of its launch, MEEA was able to attract members from different countries including the Kingdom of Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Palestine, Kingdom of Jordan, and Malaysia.

Further information:

- Middle East e-Learning Association (MEEA)

Related links:

- Popular e-learning CD on ICT in Education NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!
- UNESCO Bangkok releases ICT in Education Capacity Building Modules CD-ROM
- UNESCO-SALIS e-learning portal for awareness raising on information literacy for Southern Asia
- UN launches e-Learning initiative in over 160 developing countries
- E-learning for kids

Previous issues of the e-newsletter:

- UNESCO "ICT in Education" Announcement e-newsletter
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**IFAP Annual World Report 2009 available online**

Assistance to UNESCO Member States in the formulation of national information policy frameworks has been the main focus of the Information for All Programme (IFAP) in 2008-2009. The IFAP Annual World Report 2009 offers an overview of major international and national policy documents and highlights the most important trends of the information society during the last year.

“Information Society Policies. Annual World Report 2009” was written by researchers from the Information Society Research Institute of the Budapest University of Technology and Economics. According to their analysis, the most important effect of the information society is probably the fact that it eliminates several historical divides. Social differences caused by the unequal distribution of ICT tools are being eliminated by the same tools, which causes a paradoxical situation.

The Report outlines cultural and geographical aspects of the digital divide and highlights solutions offered by the information society, such as broadband Internet and mobile technology. It also analyses the link between social and technological changes, which vary from country to country. Among the most significant trends introduced in the Report are some important technical achievements that are likely to change people’s lives in several aspects.

Information society strategies increasingly focus on e-government, which is becoming more and more socially oriented. The authors of the World Report examine the e-government aspects that proved to be the most important last year: the breakthrough of social networking, the increasing importance of open source software and of the green IT. No information society strategy today can disregard these trends.

The last section provides an overview of the worldwide penetration of ICT tools, both globally and regionally, showing the social and policy challenges faced by particular regions.

**Read the report:**


**Related links:**

- *IFAP Annual World Report 2009 available online*
• How will ICT change the future of education?
• Teacher trainers from South Asia discussed media and information literacy
• UNESCO publishes brochure on follow-up to World Summit on the Information Society
• Handbook of Emerging Technologies for Learning

Previous issues of the e-newsletter:
• UNESCO "ICT in Education" Announcement e-newsletter

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**Government of Australia invests $40 million (AUD) for teachers' ICT training**

The Minister for Education, Julia Gillard, announced a $40 million initiative to help ensure teachers and school leaders receive comprehensive training in information and communication technology (ICT).

The Digital Strategy for Teachers and School Leaders, part of the Australian Government’s $2.2 billion Digital Education Revolution, will help teachers and school leaders achieve ICT proficiency and embed these skills across the curriculum and teaching practices.

The Government will consult with education sectors to determine how ICT proficiency can best be achieved in schools and the first part of the strategy will develop a national ICT self-assessment tool to be trialled in selected schools from February 2011.

An in-school professional development program will also be developed based on the results of the self-assessment tool to help guide teachers and school leaders towards customised professional development to support their needs.

The Government will also establish the $20 million ICT Innovation Fund to provide grants for ICT projects.
Organisations including universities, state and territory education departments, businesses and the non-government education sectors will be encouraged to apply for funding from 2010 until 2012 to undertake projects which will:

- improve the capability of pre-service teachers
- enhance the capacity of in-service teachers
- drive innovation through leadership

The fund will call for applications in April 2010.

Through the strategy, teachers and school leaders will be empowered to integrate ICT into education that will improve school effectiveness and provide students with the skills required for the 21st Century.

The strategy will also complement the new Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership’s work to strengthen and advance the teaching profession.

The Australian Government is committed to improving the quality of teaching in schools, investing $550 million through the Smarter Schools – Improving Teacher Quality National Partnership to attract and retain quality teachers and school leaders.

Funding through the Digital Education Revolution to reach a 1 to 1 ratio is now being provided through a National Partnership Agreement with State and Territory education departments and through Funding Agreements with Catholic and Independent education authorities. So far, 220,000 computers have been installed in schools across Australia.

**Further information:**

- Government of Australia invests $40 million (AUD) for teachers’ ICT training

**Related links:**

- Digital Strategy for Teachers and School Leaders
- Smarter Schools – Improving Teacher Quality National Partnership
- Educational challenges for the globalized 21st century – UNESCO Bangkok Director addresses Asia Education Leaders Forum
- Asia and Pacific Database on Education launched - Giving policy makers and practitioners evidence for action
- India announces budget for ICT education

**Previous issues of the e-newsletter:**
Communication prices falling worldwide, UN reports

Prices for information and communication technology (ICT) services are falling worldwide, and services continue to grow, propelled by mobile cellular use, but broadband Internet remains outside the reach of many in poor countries, the United Nations telecoms agency reported.

The UN International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Measuring the Information Society 2010 report “confirms that despite the recent economic downturn, the use of ICT services has continued to grow worldwide,” ITU’s Sami Al Basheer Al Morshid said in releasing the study.

All 159 countries featured in the report’s ICT Development Index (IDI) have improved their levels, and mobile cellular technology continues to be a key driver of growth. In 2010, ITU expects the global number of mobile cellular subscriptions to top 5 billion.

“At the same time, the report finds that the price of telecommunication services is falling – a most encouraging development,” said Mr. Al Basheer, Director of ITU’s Telecommunication Development Bureau.

Fixed broadband services showed the largest price fall (42 per cent), compared to 25 and 20 per cent in mobile cellular and fixed telephone services respectively, yet a person in the developing world is nearly seven times less likely to have access than someone in a developed country.

The world’s top 10 most advanced ICT economies feature eight countries from Northern Europe, with Sweden topping the IDI for the second year in a row. The Republic of Korea and Japan rank third and eighth, respectively.

The United Arab Emirates and Bahrain top the list of Arab States, with Russia and Belarus leading ICT development in the ex-Soviet Union. In Africa, only the Seychelles, Mauritius and South Africa are included in the top 100.

Given the close relationship between ICT uptake and national income, most poor countries rank at the low end of the IDI. In particular, the least developed countries
(LDCs), many of them in Africa, still have very limited access to ICTs, especially in terms of broadband infrastructure and household access.

Mobile cellular technology continues to be the main driver of ICT growth, especially in the developing world, where average penetration surpassed the 50 per cent mark in 2009. Today, over 70 economies worldwide have surpassed the 100 per cent penetration mark, with developed countries averaging 113 per cent by the end of last year.

While high-speed Internet access is now available in almost all countries, fixed broadband penetration in the developing world remains as low as 3.5 per cent, compared to 23 per cent in developed countries.

Read the report:

- UN International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Measuring the Information Society 2010 report

Related links:

- UNESCO publishes brochure on follow-up to World Summit on the Information Society
- White Paper Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in Education for Development
- US computer giant and UN expand scheme to stem “Brain Drain” from poor states
- Technology alone will not bridge knowledge divides

Previous issues of the e-newsletter:

- UNESCO "ICT in Education" Announcement e-newsletter

What do you think about this topic?

- Visit our on-line forum and share your views
The national biennial conference of the Australian Council for Computers in
Education returns to Melbourne in April 2010

The Australian Computers in Education Conference 2010 (ACEC2010) is the biennial conference of the Australian Council for Computers in Education (ACCE). In 2010 the ACEC conference will be hosted by ICT in Education Victoria (ICTEV) in Melbourne from the 6th to the 9th April. This conference is for all educators who make use of ICT in teaching and learning.

The theme ACEC2010: Digital Diversity addresses the interactive and creative approaches to ICT in education, and offers learners the pathways to adaptability by addressing the diversity of styles of learning and thinking.

This conference will address this need for flexible technologies for flexible learners. More precisely, it will focus on areas such as:

- School improvement: addressing development and articulation of a vision for the role of technology in school improvement.
- Technology infrastructure: focusing on the technology, resources, and policies necessary to build the technology infrastructure for effective teaching, learning and administration.
- Professional learning: focuses on the development of leaders, and the education and accountability of teachers, administrators and other educators.
- 21st Century teaching and learning: covering all aspects of technology use in the learning environment.
- Virtual schooling / eLearning: covering all aspects of designing, choosing and evaluating and implementing online courses and eLearning experiences for students.

This is a national conference with an international focus, featuring prominent Australian and overseas speakers and educators. The conference program will provide a comprehensive selection of best practice occurring in Australian classrooms throughout the states and territories.

For more background on the organisations behind the conference you can read about ACCE and ICTEV.

Further information:

- Australian Computers in Education Conference 2010 (ACEC2010)

Programmes & Projects
International children’s digital library project
The International Children’s Digital Library (ICDL) is an online library for children and parents but also for teachers. It includes 4,365 books in 54 languages and has already been visited by over a million people from 166 countries.
Thanks to ICDL, you can search books in many ways (by country, by “recently added” or by “Award-winning books” for instance) and then read them for free and anonymously. You can also create an account to keep a bookshelf of books you like and set various personal preferences. Moreover, by becoming a member, you can also participate in the community forum.

Additionally, as a teacher, the library presents you with many possible activities for your students such as “Digital Story Time”, “Scavenger hunt”, “Complete the Story”, “Creative Writing”, “Learning Languages” and “Class Translation”. For more details, a teacher training manual is available online (http://en.childrenslibrary.org/books/activities/ICDL%20Teacher%20Training%20Manual.pdf).

The library was launched in November, 2002. It was created by an interdisciplinary research team (computer scientists, librarians, educational technologists, classroom teachers, graphic designers and graduate students) at the University of Maryland in cooperation with the Internet Archive. The research adopted a “cooperative inquiry” approach. Thus, a group of six children from the College Park Kidsteam, ages 7-11, contributed regularly to the development and evaluation of computer interface that support searching, browsing, reading, and sharing books in electronic form.

The ICDL is now the main activity of the independent non-profit ICDL Foundation. The mission of this organisation is to “support the world’s children in becoming effective members of the global community – who exhibit tolerance and respect for diverse cultures, languages and ideas – by making the best in children’s literature available online free of charge” and by ultimately “building the world’s largest online multicultural repository of children’s literature”. More precisely, the Foundation’s goals are the following:

- “to create a collection of more than 10,000 books
- to develop a greater understanding of the relationship between children’s access to a digital collection of multicultural materials and children’s attitudes toward books, libraries, reading, technology, and other countries and cultures.
- to collaborate with children as design partners in the development of computer interface technologies that support children in searching, browsing, reading, and sharing books in electronic form.
- to provide a platform for operational excellence that insures the library grows in strict accordance with its strategic priorities and in a manner that leverages its outstanding human and intellectual resources to achieve the library’s mission of reaching as many children as possible with the best of children’s literature”.

There are many ways to contribute to the library. Indeed, you can become a member or sponsor, a book contributor, a volunteer library translator or/and a library ambassador. You can also recommend a book to be featured.

**Further information:**

- [International Children’s Digital Library (ICDL)](http://en.childrenslibrary.org/)
Related links:

- The Education Clip Library
- Freereading
- Google Books
- Research Channel offers new ways to watch, share cutting-edge research
- Creating digital libraries with UNESCO open source software

Previous issues of the e-newsletter:

- UNESCO "ICT in Education" Announcement e-newsletter

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Resources

Providing ICT skills to teacher trainers in Cambodia: Summary of project outputs and achievements

This study prepared by Jayson W. Richardson of the University of North Carolina Wilmington, presents data on the outputs of an international development project called “Establishing the Effective Use of ICTs in Education for All in Cambodia”.

A main component of this project was to teach all teacher trainers how to use basic ICTs. This article presents the achievements of the project juxtaposed with a study of the factors that either inhibited or motivated the teacher trainers’ choice to adopt use of these ICT skills.

The project was implemented by both UNESCO and the Cambodian Ministry of Education. Analyses were conducted on 379 surveys, 17 interviews, UNESCO project documents, and Cambodian Ministry of Education documents.


Read the article:

- Providing ICT skills to teacher trainers in Cambodia: Summary of project outputs and achievements
Related links:

- UNESCO Bangkok kicks-off new ICT in Education project funded by Korean government
- Teacher trainers from South Asia discussed media and information literacy
- Research project to focus on the role of technology in innovative teaching and learning
- Observatory on ICTs in Education

Previous issues of the e-newsletter:

- UNESCO “ICT in Education” Announcement e-newsletter

What do you think about this topic?

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Study on the impact of ICT and new media on language learning
The aim of the study was to investigate the impact on language learning of ICT and new media, as a complement to ‘traditional’, face-to-face learning and teaching within – and beyond – the framework of formal education systems.

Read the full study:

- Study on the impact of ICT and new media on language learning

Related links:

- Planning of online platform for language learning takes shape
• **Learn English Kids**

• **Open Training Platform to become a hub for Cyber Network for Learning Languages**

• **WeSay Project: Empowering language development using ICT**

**Previous issues of the e-newsletter:**

• **UNESCO "ICT in Education" Announcement e-newsletter**

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**ICT and polyglot**

To be a polyglot (speak more than one language) had never been so easy; thanks to the potential of ICTs. Now students/learners interested in becoming polyglot can make use of ICT tools for learning and practicing a language without joining any formal language learning centre and without paying high tuition fees or without cost; except time and energy.

In ICT every technology has its own importance but computer with an internet connection surpasses other technologies because it is the most powerful tool to access and share the information. It is absolutely a good teacher also; a teacher who is available around the clock, ready to give information on any topic and of course master of many languages; polyglot.

Learning languages using computer is a great fun, exciting activity and good use of time. Once you are online you are in your “e-classroom” there are many websites to give language lessons and help and guide you to improve your present proficiency of any language.

BBC is providing free of cost lessons on 36 languages. These lessons have been designed for beginners with very basic and essential phrases and reach up to higher levels. This website provides all basic ingredients to make language learning possible; text, audio, video and grammar. For some languages it also provides support material for tutors as well. “Test yourself” is one more feature of BBC Languages, here you can take a language proficiency test in given language and at the end of the test you will receive guidance and counseling. [http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages/)

Another free source which is very helpful for self learning is “How to learn any language”. This website gives you guidance, tips and tricks to speed up your learning
and to enhance your capabilities. This language website has ten moderators and 12000 members. The multi-level language forum of this site has more than 174,000 posts.  [http://how-to-learn-any-language.com/e/index.html](http://how-to-learn-any-language.com/e/index.html)

Are you looking for a resource hub with a broad range of choices? Word2Word website might be interesting for you. Once you are at Word2Word, then you don’t need to go anywhere else. This website is a gift for those new polyglots, language students and teachers who are interested in exploring more resources to quench their thirst of knowledge. Word2Word has attempted to place as many online courses as possible at your disposal by giving hundreds of links to other language websites. These websites contain lessons to help learning one language from another. The courses vary in quality and the quantity of material presented. [http://www.word2word.com/coursead.html#english](http://www.word2word.com/coursead.html#english)

You know that it is not possible to learn a language without practicing reading, writing and speaking. Hence Polyglot Club is a great resource where you can practice your language of interest with other members like you. This will work like a magic wand to improve your competency in language that you are learning. [http://www.polyglot-learn-language.com/](http://www.polyglot-learn-language.com/)

Every learner or even expert of the language needs a good dictionary. Wordreference.com is an excellent online dictionary due to many reasons: It is multilingual (more than fifteen languages), it gives synonyms, it produces conjugations tables, it is available for iPhone and iPod, furthermore it has a number of tools i.e. plug-ins, modules and “gadgets” for Internet Explorer, Firefox and Google. [http://www.wordreference.com/](http://www.wordreference.com/)

What did you say? You need more! O.K, let me put last card, hopefully it will quench your thirst. Google provides an excellent real time online translation tool which is fast, easy and free. Google Language Tools can translate your text into more than 127 languages - yes 127 living languages! The quality of the translation, in terms of accuracy, is unbelievable. A tip and trick; by typing single word in the given box for text, you can use it as a dictionary also. Now you are waiting for what? Rush to [http://www.google.com/language_tools?hl=EN](http://www.google.com/language_tools?hl=EN) and translate this page in your language of choice or into your mother tongue. Enjoy this, share it and say to the whole world: Hurrah now I can speak to the world!

**Author: Ali Amjad**

**Related links:**

- [Planning of online platform for language learning takes shape](#)
- [Learn English Kids](#)
- [Open Training Platform to become a hub for Cyber Network for Learning Languages](#)
- [WeSay Project: Empowering language development using ICT](#)
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Sciencefeed: Share and discuss your opinions about research, scientific conferences, and science headlines.

Sciencefeed, a real time micro blogging tool designed for scientists, has announced the launch of its service to the public. The kind of exchange that micro blogging platforms like Twitter have brought to the online world, can have tremendous potential to transform the world of science. Because of tools such as Sciencefeed, new results, headlines and ideas can be spread instantly and quickly spill over into other disciplines. Sciencefeed aims to increase scientific productivity by reducing the barriers of time and space in communication.

Sciencefeed will enable users to post their ideas, feedbacks, reactions and resources; follow users; respond to other member’s entries, and comment on various topics – in real-time. This kind of instant back-and-forth will produce spontaneous, dynamic exchange that used to only be possible in a face to face environment.

Another benefit to Sciencefeed is that the exchange is not required to be immediate. Unlike instant-messaging services, users do not have to be online simultaneously to work together or stay updated. By following the postings of certain individuals, or within specific networks or groups, users can stay up-to-date on developments, quickly filter information according to their interests, and organize their resources. This will enable scientists to manage their resources and information efficiently.

Further information:

- Sciencefeed

Related links:

- Twitter - A Teaching and Learning Tool
- Learning by blogging
Great expectations of ICT: How higher education institutions are measuring up

ICT changing the face of higher education

How will ICT change the future of education?

Previous issues of the e-newsletter:

UNESCO “ICT in Education” Announcement e-newsletter

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Class Blogmeister – Learning as conversation

Perhaps one of the most fascinating tools that has emerged from the Internet cloud in recent years is the Blog. A shortening of the term Web log, the Blog is an online publishing tool that enables people to easily publish their loves, passions, dislikes, peeves, discoveries, and insights.

Thousands of teachers have discovered the value of classroom blogging, both as an avenue for their communications, but also as a tool for giving voice to what their students are learning and how they are learning.

Class Blogmeister is one of several blogging engines that have been developed specifically for classroom use. The service is provided free of subscription or purchase charges.

Further information:

Class Blogmeister

Related links:

Learning by blogging

Recommendations for blogging in higher education

Top 10 web 2.0 tools for young learners
• Tikatok: Kids create and publish books
• Are you using ICT in innovative ways to enhance learning?

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